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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

Hongkong, 19th December, 1888.

BIRTH.

At Shanghai, on the 8th inst., the wife of
CHARLES BURRO, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

At New York, on the 28th Nov., 1888, of
typhoid fever, ERNEST FORESHEW, aged 33
years.At Home, on the 2nd inst., ARTHUR HOLAH,
barrister-at-law, formerly of Shanghai. (By
telegram).At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 6th
January, 1889, JOSEPH J. POYNTER (Tide-
surveyor, I.M. Customs, Chinkiang), aged 47
years.At Shanghai, on board the U.S.S. *Omaha*, on the
8th January, 1889, EDWIN WELLS, Chief
Engineer, United States Navy, aged 51 years.At the Hongkong Government Civil Hospital,
on the 12th January, 1889, HENRY SMITH
BIDWELL, late of Shanghai.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1889.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter.)

THE SACKVILLE INCIDENT,

LONDON, January 13th.

The papers laid before Parliament show that
Lord Salisbury declined to discuss the alleged
offence because he considered the action taken
by the American Government contrary to inter-
national usage.

THE CZAREWITZ.

The Czarewicz has been betrothed to the
Princess Alice of Hesse.(From *Strait Times*.)SIR ROBERT MORIER AND COUNT
HERBERT BISMARK.The *Cologne Gazette* accuses Sir Robert Morier,
now British Ambassador to St. Petersburg, and
formerly Minister at Darmstadt, with having
conveyed to Marshal Bazaine the news that the
Prussians were crossing the Moselle.Sir Robert Morier has published letters written
to Count Herbert Bismarck in December last,
in which was enclosed a denial elicited from
Marshal Bazaine in August. Finding that
Count Herbert had mentioned the accusation to
several persons, Sir Robert appealed to him as
a man of honor to publish an official denial of
so foul a libel. Count Herbert refused to do so.(From the *Courier d'Haiphong*.)

BOULANGER ON THE STUMP.

PARIS, January 3rd.

General Boulanger has issued a manifesto to
the electors of the department of Seine in
which he repudiates all idea of dictatorship and
states that he demands the revision of the
Constitution. He attacks the policy of intrigue and of waste,
which is an effect of parliamentarism, and
declares that the country is everybody's patri-
mony.

BUREAUCRATIC CHANGES.

January 5th.

The department of Posts and Telegraphs has
been annexed to that of the Minister for Com-
merce. The chiefs of the 4th and 5th depart-
ments of the Administration of the Colonies have
been made Chevaliers of the Legion of Honour.

THE SEINE ELECTION.

January 6th.

The Republicans have accepted the candida-
ture of M. Jacques, President of the general
council of the Seine.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

OWING to extreme pressure on our news columns,
a mass of interesting matter has unavoidably
been held over.THE agents (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.)
inform us that the steamer *Glenariff*, from
London, left Singapore on the 13th inst. for this
port.MESSRS. Adamson, Bell & Co., agents for the
Canadian-Pacific Line, inform us that the steam-
ship *Batavia*, from Vancouver, arrived at Yoko-
hama this morning, and will leave for Kobe and
Hongkong to-morrow.A TELEGRAM was received in town this morning
stating that the Ocean Co.'s steamship *Prism*,
whilst en route from England to the Far East,
has become a total loss on the coast of Spain.
No details of the mishap are given.We are informed by the Agents (Messrs. Gibb,
Livingston & Co.) that the "Ben" line steamer
Dinlarig left Singapore for Hongkong yester-
day afternoon. She is on her way to this with
a cargo of coals from Cardiff for the naval
authorities.ON Monday, the 7th inst., the snow at Ningpo
was six inches deep.THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Gwalior* left
Bombay for this port on the 13th inst. at day-
light.ELEVEN steamers left Nagasaki between the
25th and 31st December with over 9,000 tons
of coal.H.M.S. *Cockchafer* left Shanghai for Foochow
on the 9th inst., en route to Hongkong via
Tamsui.THE Portuguese gunboat *Rio Lima*, Commander
Santa Barbara, arrived this afternoon from
Macao.AN Emergency meeting of Zetland Lodge, No.
525, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland
Street, on Friday, the 18th inst., at 8.30 for
9 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially
invited.We are informed by the Agents (Messrs. Arnold,
Karberg & Co.) that the China Shippers' Mutual
S. N. Co.'s steamer *Moyuna*, from Glasgow and
Liverpool, left Singapore last night for this port,
and may be expected on or about the 20th inst.THE steamer *Chingwa*, which arrived at
Yokohama from Kobe on the 6th inst.,
encountered very heavy weather during the
passage. At the height of the gale a heavy
piece of machinery broke adrift in the 'tween
decks and smashed two plates in the vessel's
side.ORDERS for the *Hongkong Directory and Hong
List for the Far East for 1889*, which was
published on the 7th inst., should be sent to this
Office, or to the Agents whose names will be
found in an advertisement in another column.
The numerous orders from the Coast Ports are
being filled as rapidly as possible.We have to acknowledge receipt of *Micklejohn's
Japan Directory for 1889*. This useful work
appears to have been most carefully compiled,
and contains a vast amount of useful and inter-
esting information. An admirable plan of
Yokohama, specially prepared for this work,
will be found invaluable to visitors to that city.At the Police Court to-day J. P. Gutierrez a
clerk in Russell's office, living at 32 Shelley
Street, charged his amah with disobeying. He
paid her \$3.25 per month, on condition she had
no followers, and the other night a man was in
the cook-house. She said it was her son—
he said it couldn't be. The magistrate dismissed
the case as trivial.MR. EDWIN WELLS, chief engineer of the U. S. S.
Omaha, committed suicide by shooting himself
through the head on board his vessel in Shanghai
harbour during the night of the 8th inst. A
Court of Inquiry found that deceased had com-
mitted suicide in a fit of temporary insanity. A
post-mortem examination showed that the
brain was adhering to the skull. The remains
of the unfortunate officer, who was very popular
with his shipmates, were interred with naval
honors.THE question of Coolie emigration to British
North Borneo, according to the *Pioneer*, is
engaging the attention of the Government of
India; and it is hoped that this new outlet for
India's surplus population will be opened in a
little time. The Government are said to be
anxious to see that arrangements are made for
protecting the interests of the emigrants and
ensuring their health and comfort before sanc-
tioning the measures in such cases. The climate
of Borneo is believed to be well suited to natives
of India.THE elections for the Shanghai French Muni-
cipal Council were held on the 9th inst. with
the following results:—
Number of voters 83
J. C. MacBain 83
J. C. Bois 82
J. Chapal 82
J. Fournel 82
P. Brunat 81
J. Orliou 1
J. Arranger 1THE *Avantur du Tonkin* reports that reconnoit-
ring parties are every day advancing towards the
northern extremities of the provinces of
Thanh-hoa and Nghe-an, and some of these
detachments composed of officers and a few
soldiers having proceeded on a ten days march
beyond the last French station, were very
hospitably received by the Muong inhabitants.
One of these parties met some Siamese people
who had crossed their frontiers and were occupying
several places belonging to Annam. The whole
district is, in fact, occupied by people who in
consequence of intestine troubles, have abandon-
ed their villages; they now pay a double tribute,
to Annam and Siam.THE Tamsui correspondent of the *Shanghai
Mercury* writes on the 3rd inst.:—The steamship
Choyang anchored outside the bar on the 29th
inst., to land Mr. Donald Spence, who probably
came here in connection with the guns brought
down by the steamer *Pechili*. These are the
last guns of this character and the *Pechili* leaves
to-day for Shanghai, taking with her 172,000.
The Governor's treasure-room must be
dwindling down after paying such large sums
for guns and ammunition. The weather is very
changeable; we have an occasional fine day, and
then rain, or wind. But for all this the health
of our little community is first rate, without any
fever.THUS our Shanghai morning contemporary:—
A very gallant deed was done on, or rather off,
H.M.S. *Cockchafer* on Saturday night the 5th
inst. Mr. Hodges, sub-lieutenant, was coming
alongside in a sampan when his foot slipped, and
he fell into the river and went under the sampan.
A marine, though he was in his heavy great coat,
pluckedly jumped into the river and succeeded, after
an interval, in pushing Mr. Hodges from under
the sampan, when they both came up. By this
time they had drifted some distance, and the
light was so dark that the boats which had
been sent from the gunboat at once, returned
declaring that it was impossible to find them.
We should hope that the marine will get the
Royal Humane Society's medal for this very
gallant act, performed on the coldest night of
the year and with the dread of the river that has
naturally settled on the seamen generally since
the best swimmer on the *Rambler* was drowned.
The same night Captain Maxwell in coming
alongside slipped off the sampan; but fortunately
caught the companion and only got wet up to
his waist.It is reported from Peking that the Marquis
Tseng has been offered and has refused the
Governorship of Honan.THE "Two" Shooting party, led by our well
known local "Sport," the Hon. J. Bell-Irving,
would appear to have had a grand time during
their annual trip up country. Their bag totalled
thirteen hundred head, which must have afforded
capital shooting. They report game to be abund-
ant this season.In a Police Court case reported in our issue of
last Saturday the offender against the majesty
of the law was described as a stoker bailing
from H.M.S. *Merlin*, whereas he actually
belonged to the *Myrmidon*. The mistake was
not ours, and although the stoker's offence was
not a very serious one, it is only fair to the crew
of the *Merlin* that their record should not be
unjustly soiled.SAVES the *N. C. Daily News*:—The funeral of
Mr. J. J. Poynter, a tide-surveyor in the Customs
Service, took place on Tuesday, the 8th inst.
The deceased joined the Customs in 1863, so that
he had been some 26 years in the service. He
was stationed at Chinkiang, and on the 30th ult.
came to Shanghai for medical treatment, but
died on Sunday. He is spoken of as having been
a very liberal man, and was highly
respected.THE *Shanghai Courier* of the 9th inst., says:—
The cold has been intense during the last two
days. There have been falls of snow up the
Yangtze and at Ningpo, and steamers coming
in from the North of course report thick ice on
decks. Frost was severe in Shanghai last night,
and there was good ice on the Hongkew ponds.
Steamers in the river, at 7 o'clock this morning,
report that the thermometer was down to 19°
which is equal to 1° of frost. At 10.30, after
the sun came out, there were 7° of frost.THE following are the Orders of the Day for the
enacting of the Legislative Council to be held on
Thursday, 17th inst., at 4 p.m.:—1. First reading of a "Bill for amending the
Laws relating to the construction of Buildings in
the Colony of Hongkong."
2. First reading of a Bill entitled "The Stone
Cutting Island Ordinance, 1889."
3. Second reading of a "Bill to Amend the
Cattle Diseases, Slaughter-House, and Markets
Ordinance, 1887."
4. Committee on the "Reformatory Schools
Amendment Bill."THE *Shih Po* gives this curious story which it
heads "A Woman's Revenge."—Outside of the
South Gate of the city of Tientsin, Mrs. Wang
and Mrs. Feng lived as neighbours. For a long
time their relations were of a most amicable
nature, not even so much as a harsh word having
passed between them. The other day, however, a
saw belonging to Mrs. Feng happened to knock
down and slightly injure the front door of Mrs.
Wang, the latter at once proceeded to claim
damages, which was refused. Whereupon a
fierce altercation ensued, which terminated in
Mrs. Wang threatening to take her own life,
as she felt herself to be the aggrieved and
injured party. Mrs. Feng, upon hearing of this
divulgent threat, and fearing lest she should be
helplessly implicated should her enemy carry
her threat into execution, resolved at once to take
time by the forelock, and steal a march upon her
enemy by taking her own life, and thus turn the
tables upon her. She accordingly took her own
life into a deep ditch with the intention of drowning
herself. Fortunately a countryman who was
passing by rescued her, and taking her back to
her home, attempted to effect a reconciliation,
with but partially successful results.A REGULAR communication of the District
Grand Lodge of Northern China, E.C., was held
in the Masonic Hall, Shanghai, on Monday the
7th January, 1889, when the Right Worshipful
District Grand Master, Bro. Miller, appointed and
invested his office bearers for the year, as follows:—
Wor. Bro. C. J. Holliday.....D.S.G.W.
" F. M. Gratton.....D.J.G.W.
" R. More.....D.G. Treasurer.
" G. R. Wingrove.....D.G. Registrar.
" T. F. Hough.....P.D.B. of G.P.
" G. M. Hart.....D.G. Secretary.
" J. West.....D.S.G.D.
" R. M. Brown.....D.J.G.D.
" S. Moutrie.....D.G. Dip. of Works.
Bro. J. Fryer.....D.G. Dip. of Cer.
" R. E. Osborne.....D.G. Ad. of Cer.
" W. E. Southcott.....D.G. Stand-Bearer.
" D. E. Sassoon.....D.G. do
" G. Lanning.....D.G. Organist.
" S. R. Gale.....D.A.G. Secretary.
" J. W. Gande.....D.G. Pursuivant.
" E. Belbin.....D.A.G. do
" E. Bois.....D.G. Steward.
" W. W. Clifford.....do
" F. P. Catterall.....do
" B. F. Lalacca.....do
" E. F. Wickham.....do
" C. Merritt.....D.G. Tyler.THE following Monkey news under date the 1st
inst. is published by the *Avantur du Tonkin* of the
5th. "The Chinese, held the blockhouse
which they had taken the previous night, till 4
o'clock in the morning. For a short time great
fears were entertained for the fate of M. Durillon,
Chief of the Customs department, and of his
employees. It was afterwards ascertained that
on being hotly attacked they had vigorously
defended themselves and succeeded in retreating
to the Residency. The Customs staff left
to-day for Haiphong. On the night of the
28th December both the Residency and the
blockhouse were attacked by the Chinese, who
for a few consecutive nights previously had been
attacking the citadel. On the 30th December
they tried to take the fort, but owing to the heavy
fire poured on them from the Residency and the
'quan-dao' they failed. They numbered above
1,000 men, most of whom were regular soldiers,
armed with repeating rifles. The only wounded
on our part were a militiaman and two 'linh'.
The whole of Mon-ky has been evacuated;
Hainan is also deserted, excepting the 'quan-
dao' where a number of inhabitants have been
sheltered; from three to four hundred natives have
retreated to the Residency. Re-inforcements are
now arriving as two gunboats are coming up the
river, a period of tranquillity is anticipated,
which is sure to cease the moment the forces
are withdrawn. The existing rebel bands are
still going on in China. No news has been
received from Father Grandpierre for ten days,
and fears are entertained for his safety. The
Chinese are spreading the rumour that Thuyet,
who was captured by them some time after the
capture of the ex-king Ham-ngh, will be kept in
prison on Chinese territory. It is well known
that the importance and the consequences of
this event as it most certainly involves a very
clever diplomatic manoeuvre."We would remind owners of race-ponies that the
Stewards in charge of the measuring will be in
attendance to-morrow morning. As a large
number of griffins have to pass the standard it is
to be hoped that owners will facilitate matters
by bringing up as many to-morrow as possible
so as to avoid a crush on Saturday. While on
this subject we may call attention to a
paragraph published on Friday last in which
a complaint was made that on that date
no Stewards were in attendance at the
Grand Stand to measure the ponies. The
complaint was not well founded. Rule 20 of the
bye-laws of the Hongkong Jockey Club, should
read "one week previous to the day of entering"
and not "a week" as assumed by the writer of
the paragraph in question. Besides this it has
always been the practice to measure the ponies
during the week on which the entries closed, and
only "a griffin" could have imagined otherwise.
With regard to the bye-laws they are as a whole
practically obsolete, and should be entirely re-
modelled; however, "An Old Sportsman" will
have something to say on that subject in his
usual series of articles after the entries close.THE following appears in the *Peking Gazette*
of the 15th December:—The annual subsidy
sent to Peking from all the provinces is Tls.
2,000,000, the distribution of which is arranged
beforehand towards the end of every year by the
Board of Revenue. Of the above amount the
salt revenue at Canton was required to furnish
Tls. 200,000 for the present year, and a further
contribution of Tls. 50,000 was called for to
meet the expenses of the Imperial Household.
The total of the total have already been
forwarded, and the Viceroy now reports the
transmission of the remainder, Tls. 60,000,
which has been sent in bills drawn upon
Shansi bankers. This has been supplied
by a remittance of Tls. 1,830 to
cover postage, loss by exchange, and similar
charges. The Customs Revenue at Canton was
assessed in the following sums as contributions
during the present year to Peking—Foreign
Customs duties, Tls. 100,000 for the Peking
subsidy; Tls. 200,000 from the six-tenths of the
same duties for frontier defence on the North-
east Tls. 6,000 a quarter for supplementing the
salaries of the local officials; Tls. 40,000 for
allowances to the local officers; Tls. 120,000
from the four-tenths, and Tls. 200,000 from the
six-tenths of the Foreign Customs receipt for
frontier defence preparations, and Tls. 300,000
as the fixed annual appropriation for the Privy
Purse of the Imperial Household Department.
The Viceroy and Hoppo report having remitted
by bills the first instalments of the various
assessments mentioned above.

SUPREME COURT.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

(Before Mr. Justice Leach.)

NOWROJEE V. THE STEAM LAUNCH CO.

In this case Mr. Dornabje Nowrojee, of the
Victoria Hotel, proprietor of the ferry launch
Morning Star, claimed \$252 from the Steam
Launch Co., Limited, for damages incurred in a
collision on the 6th October between that vessel
and the *Pioneer*. Mr. Caldwell appeared for the
plaintiff, and Mr. Francis Q.C., instructed by
Mr. Holmes, represented the defendants.Mr. Caldwell having read the pleadings,
Kwok Ayan said he was steersman on the
Morning Star forty-launch, and had been for
eight months. On the 6th October, at 5.15 p.m.,
the launch left Pedder's Wharf for Tsai-ai-tso,
and on the way, when off the *Meane*, a steam-
launch emerged from behind the *Meane*, and
was heading straight for the *Morning Star*.
Witness blew the whistle, and put his helm to
starboard. He put it hard a starboard when the
launches were about 200 feet apart. Until
then the other launch was coming straight on,
but she afterwards ported her helm. Witness
had the engines reversed, but about a minute
and a half afterwards the launches collided.
The starboard side of the other launch struck
the bow of the *Morning Star*. The latter was
still going ahead, but slowly. She went astern
directly she touched the side of the *Pioneer*.
The latter was going full speed ahead, and did
not stop at all after the collision. The *Morning
Star* was injured by the collision—she leaked a
little. It was dark and calm at the time, and
slack tide.By Mr. Francis:—I am a licensed steersman,
I had just got round the stern of the *Meane*
before I saw the *Pioneer*. The *Meane* was on
the starboard bow all the time. We were going
about six miles an hour, and the *Pioneer* was
going a little faster. She was about 100 or 120
yards away. If neither of us had altered our
course we should probably have passed safely,
but I changed my course to make sure.Yun Bock Kwong, the sailor who was on the
launch, gave similar evidence.
Leung, the engineer, stated that on the
passage in question he received a signal to
reverse the engines a little before the collision.Francis Xavier, the fare collector, deposed to
seeing the *Pioneer* change her course when
about 100 feet away, and run on to the *Morning
Star*.
Mr. Francis then briefly stated his defence,
which was to the effect that the *Pioneer* was
keeping the rule of the road, and keeping to
starboard, but that the *Morning Star* ported
her helm and ran into her. In support of this
he called—Chau Lin Ho, one of the *Pioneer's* crew, who
was looking out at the time of the collision. He
said he saw the *Morning Star* come round the
stern of the *Meane*, and saw her swerve round
towards the *Pioneer* and run into her.
Mr. G. D. Scott, a passenger, said that the
Morning Star was steered all right for a while
after passing the *Meane*, and then changed her
course, causing a collision between the two
vessels. When the collision was imminent the
head of the *Pioneer* was turned about four points
to ease the blow. He heard no whistle.Mr. Woolley, another passenger, said he was
sitting on the starboard bow, when he saw the
other launch come round the *Meane*. He
watched her, and saw her green light for a while,
and then he saw her cross the *Pioneer's*
bow. The helm of the *Pioneer* was ported to
ease the force of the collision.Mr. W. G. Humphreys gave similar evidence.
Mr. Francis, for the defence, submitted that
the *Morning Star* infringed the rule of the road,
and that the *Pioneer* took the best possible
measures. As the evidence showed, there was
no reason, until the latest possible moment, when
the *Morning Star* was compelled to change her
course, for doing other than they did. The *Morning
Star* curved in apparently with the intention of
running under the other launch's stern, and
until she was very close, and she made a
slight turn to cross the bows instead, there
was no possible danger, and it was a nice
point then whether it was best for the
Pioneer to go full speed ahead and try to
cross her track first or stop and let her
go first. Though a collision might have been
avoided if the latter had been done, he submitted
that they did what was best, and that the fault
was not of the *Pioneer's* making. The question
was not, in his opinion, whether the *Morning Star*
did not, by her reckless act in the first instance, putboth vessels in jeopardy, leaving it a matter of
time and prompt action to avoid.Mr. Caldwell, for the plaintiffs, submitted that
upon the evidence the *Pioneer* was on the port
bow when first sighted, which perfectly justified
the *Morning Star* in continuing on that side.
But assuming for the sake of argument
that she was the starboard bow, he
argued that at that distance, and under the
circumstances, she had a right to port her helm,
and expect the *Pioneer* to do the same. If the
Pioneer was only a point or two to port it was
her duty to port her helm, which she did not.
He urged further that the marine regulations
laid down that if one ship was approaching
another in such a way as to endanger collision
it was her duty to slacken her speed, and
quoted Addison on Torts to show that, even if
the *Morning Star* was improperly steered, her
contributory negligence did not exonerate the
Pioneer if everything possible was not done on
the side of the latter.

His Honour reserved judgment.

THE HONGKONG LITERARY
SOCIETY.Comparing the attendance at the meeting
when the formation of this society was decided on
and that at the inaugural lecture last night we
should say the H.K. L. S. has lost its novelty very
early, and stands a very fair chance of following
its predecessors. For this reason—Dr. Cantlie,
the promoter of the Society, set the ball rolling
last night with a lecture on the future of the
Anglo-Saxon race. About fifty ladies and gentle-
men attended—some in evening dress and some
not. This caused a sort of secret misunder-
standing at the outset—those in "biled shirts"
wished they had come in a little quieter attire,
and those who hadn't registered a resolution to
dress next time. So the audience was not com-
fortable. Then the room—St. Andrew's Hall—
was far and away too large. There were over
two lights to each individual, and about forty
thousand cubic feet of space, in which the voices
of the Chairman and Lecturer rang and echoed
most confusingly. Lastly, no one cared whether
the Anglo-Saxon had found his home or not. After
which short preamble, we set stop expressing
our own opinions, and reproduce those of the
speakers.Dr. Chalmers, the Chairman of the Society,
presided, and in opening the proceedings made
a few preliminary remarks. The Committee, he
said, had not been idle since their election. It
might have been thought that they were asleep,
but he assured them Dr. Cantlie hardly ever
slept, except it might be at the Sanitary Board
(laughter). They had carefully laid the foundations
of what they hoped would prove a permanent
and very important institution in this Colony—
(hear hear)—and the scheme would probably
be ready to lay before members, and intending
members, within a fortnight. That institution
they were convinced, ought to stand on a broad
basis, and form a worthy literary and scientific
centre, "to focus," as one of the members said,
"the intelligence of this high-cultivated com-
munity" (Oh! Oh! and laughter). They would,
with the consent of the members, call it "The
Hongkong Institute," which would be divided
into different departments to suit different tastes
and accomplishments—debating, lecturing, read-
ing, even chess and draughts were mentioned.
Each sub-division should have its own officers,
and separate annual subscriptions. Ladies and
gentlemen should be equally invited to become
members (Hear hear). Admission should be
upon the recommendation of six members, and
the consent of the General Committee. The
entrance fee being the same for all, very mod-
erate. One object which had been lost sight of,
had been provided for by the Committee—a
Reading-room, which was a great want in the
colony. Unless they were members of a Club
there was no place where they could procure
a book that they had not in their own libraries,
and it was hard that they should be reduced to
reading the local papers (laughter). He hoped
that those present, and many others, would join
the Society in that highly-important enterprise,
not for their own sakes alone but for those of
the young men and others who did not know what
to do with their leisure time, and who would
greatly benefit by the provision of intellectual
recreation. He then introduced—Doctor Cantlie, who, before commencing his
lecture, expressed regret that he, who had had to
do with the organisation of the society, should
have to deliver the first lecture, as it seemed as
though he had got the movement up for the sake
of lecturing. He had not had much time to get
together ideas for his subject, and he was afraid
they would not hear much worth listening to,
but he would give them a hearty welcome, as
Dr. Chalmers had done, to joining what they
hoped would be the glorious career of
that Society. As a Literary Society it was
quite ambitious enough, and even if they
developed it to its full extent, so as to embrace
all subjects, still it would preserve its original
outline, and be a Literary Society. It had been
suggested that the subject for the opening lecture
should have been "The benefits of literary
societies," but if anything could be dry and
commonplace it was that. They all knew the
advantages, or imagined them. The advantage
lay in people who were well acquainted with
various subjects coming and giving the rest the
benefit of their special knowledge; they wanted
men to give their ideas off-hand—their own ideas,
thought out whilst walking along the street,
about their own branches of science or work.Men had a dislike to talk "shop"—they were
loath to talk of something they knew less
about. Now if a lawyer talked about law
he listened to him, but when he started
talking about something else he didn't always
listen. They wanted to hear about manufacturing goods,
or ships, or astronomical pursuits, or botany,
but they did not want a man to go and read up
some outside subject and talk about that. There
was nothing too humble to be interesting if a
man would only tell all he knew about it.He then proceeded with his lecture. He
traced the emigration of the Teutonic races from
Hungary to Italy, and Gaul, and latterly to Eng-
land. Here they lost themselves subsequently in
the mixture of Jutes, Danes, and Angles, and
Saxons, but at the outset they found only the
Celts. These were a hard, heathen, warlike
people, independent tillers of the soil on the three
acres and a cow principle. The invaders had
to fight the religion, the habits, and the politics
of the dwellers, and though they drove them
back and conquered them they had not finished
even yet. They would see that in Ireland, in
Scotland, and in Wales the religion and politics
of the people were still inherently different from
those of the Middle and South of England.
The *Star* had a Rome dispatch to the effect
that the Pope had appointed a Commission,
headed by Cardinal Monaco, to consider the
encouragement of Catholics voting in Italy.
Ex-Empress Eugenie is going to Paris to receive
the chiefs of the Imperialist committee.The Zanzibar correspondent of the *Times*
says of the vicissitudes of Indian traders in
East Africa: "When the rebels withdraw from
Bagamoyo the natives in the German service
will loot the houses of the traders."A dispatch from St. Petersburg, says the
Rothschild family, says that the Rothschilds
have fifteen reservoirs for storing kerosene
with a capacity of 15,000,000 bushels. The
Russians demand that the Government restrict
operations.In the Parnall Commission investigation to-
day, Police Inspector Arde testified that
outrages increased in County Mayo after the
ancient manifesto was issued. On cross-
examination, he did not know the Government
supported a secret society in Ireland as a
counter-force to the National League.David Freely testified that because he paid
rent the moonlighters visited his house and shot
him. He had no reason to believe the league
was implicated in the murder.

Several landlords testified that tenants had

Henry George will return to England to personally conduct the campaign.

Lord Hartington has tendered his resignation as a member of the National Liberal Club.

VIENNA, December 11th.

A band of six gypsies has been frozen to death in Boskowitz.

During a performance at Hohenmauth, Bohemia, to-night, a female lion tamer was attacked by the brutes and frightfully lacerated. She died soon after being rescued.

PARIS, December 11th.

The Chamber to-day by a vote of 545 to 9 adopted the extraordinary budget for 1889, the estimates being fixed at 18,800,000 francs.

Mme. Boulanger, in an interview to-day, denied that she had refused to live with her husband. She complained that he was trying to play Napoleon and make her his Josephine. She then burst into tears and begged to be excused from answering further questions.

ROME, December 11th.

A sensation has been caused by the Pope's refusal to bless the medals and reliquaries sent to Rome by an Irish priest, who intended them for distribution in Ireland. The Pope sternly said: "I cannot bless them. The people of Ireland are disobedient. They seem to prefer the gospel of Dillon and O'Brien to the gospel of Jesus Christ."

BERNE, Dec. 11th.

Italy will construct a railroad on the Italian side of the Simplon Tunnel and grant a subvention.

BERLIN, Dec. 11th.

The *National Zeitung* says the Emperor's health is all right, and rumors to the contrary are untrue.

The *National Zeitung* says Emperor William is writing a narrative of his recent visits to the Northern Capitals, illustrated with woodcuts by the Emperor and sketches by the artist Salzmann.

SUAKIM, December 11th.

The rebels maintain a heavy musketry fire. Their commander, Osman Naib, has been wounded in the neck by the explosion of a shell. The shells fired at the rebels are doing heavy damage.

It is reported that Menelek, King of Shoa, instigated by the Italian Government, which has supplied him with arms and munitions, has rebelled against King John of Abyssinia, his father-in-law. Abyssinia is in a very disturbed state.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 12th.

Secret societies with extensive ramifications, composed of young educated Armenians, and modeled after the young Italian societies, which flourished prior to 1848, have been discovered in Russian Armenia. Their object is to rebel against Russian rule and to establish Armenian union and independence.

ROME, December 12th.

It is stated that the Pope, desirous of conciliating Russia, is inclined to grant the concessions demanded by Mr. Izvolsky, including the introduction of the Russian language in Catholic churches in Little Russia and Lithuania.

Colonel Haug, who was a close friend of Garibaldi, is dead.

BERLIN, December 12th.

Bismarck is suffering from a severe attack of neuralgia.

VIENNA, December 12.

The present crisis is a bad one, and the entire country has turned against King Milan. It is believed if he takes issue with the people that his abdication will be demanded.

LONDON, December 12th.

John Bright continues to improve. The fever has disappeared, congestion is reduced, and there is little or no pain. The doctors announce no immediate danger.

December 14th.

Lord Hartington and a majority of his followers have formally resigned from the National Liberal Club.

George Routledge, head of the well-known publishing firm of George Routledge & Sons, is dead.

In the Commons this evening the bill providing for the closing of taverns on Sunday was rejected by a vote of 167 to 160.

PARIS, December 14th.

M. Maurel and M. Clemenceau fought a duel to-day with swords. M. Clemenceau was wounded in the shoulder.

Two men were killed and many injured by the breaking of a capstan on a torpedo-boat at Toulon.

LIMA, December 14th.

In a telegram to the Peruvian Government, published to-day, it is reported that Spain has agreed to arbitrate in the boundary question between Peru and Ecuador.

BERLIN, December 14th.

Albeck's woollen manufactory at Neumunster was burned to-day. Fifteen persons were killed and ten others sustained fatal injuries.

LONDON, December 15th.

Gladstone addressed thousands of the Democrats of London in Whitechapel, in a thick fog, to-day. He was given a big reception by the masses. The grand old man leaves for Naples Wednesday and will be gone some months. He will be accompanied by his daughter, Mrs. Drew, who is very much like her father. She is interested in all his subjects, from home rule to Homer.

In the Commons to-day Lord Randolph Churchill asked whether the reports of the capture of Emin Pasha and Stanley were true, and whether the Government would negotiate with Osman Digna for the release of the Europeans at Khartoum before the beginning of hostilities.

Goschen, acting Government leader, replied that the information received by the Government was so uncertain that it was impossible to suspend operations for the relief of Sudan during the many weeks that would elapse before the fate of the explorers could be ascertained.

John Morley pressed the Government to suspend operations at Suakin until Monday.

Goschen replied that the request could not be complied with, but he promised that no instructions would be given to military operations.

Morley—May I take it, then, that the Government will do the best it can to prevent the commencement of hostilities without tying the hands of the military authorities?

Goschen—I cannot tie the hands of the military authorities. I shall not go an inch beyond the statement I have already made.

In Limehouse, Gladstone made a speech congratulating the Liberals on the brightening prospects. He protested against the attempt to conquer the Sudan as an adventure as hopeless as an attempt to fight nature.

BRUSSELS, December 15th.

The Belgian Consul at Suakin telegraphs to the Government that the military and political authorities there believe the story that Emin Pasha was captured and his force dispersed, but he is in doubt about the capture of Stanley.

The date "1866" is stamped upon the cartridges that accompanied Osman Digna's letter announcing the capture of Emin Pasha and a white traveler.

VIENNA, December 15th.

An anti-slavery crusade has been successfully commenced in Austria. At the instigation of Cardinal Lavigne, a meeting on the subject has been held here under the auspices of one of the most influential Catholic societies. The Papal Nuncio attended the meeting, which was presided over by Prince von Werde. Two clerical speakers declared that Austria should join with other nations in the anti-slavery movement.

BERLIN, December 15th.

Prince Alexander of Hesse, uncle of Grand Duke Ludwig, is dead.

TURIN, December 15th.

Admiral Prince Eugene of Savoy-Carignan is dead, aged 72 years.

PARIS, December 16th.

The Boulangerist and Conservative journals violently denounce the rejection of the Panama Canal bill. Canaille Dreyfus writes: "The Deputies' abandonment of 85,000 shareholders is a crime for which the policy of deflation pursued for the past sixteen months is responsible. For fear of suspicion, the Deputies permitted citizens to be ruin'd when they did not need to risk a sou to save them."

When De Lesseps heard of the rejection of the Panama Canal bill his face blanched and his hands became very cold. He soon recovered his usual calmness, however, and spoke sadly of the wreck as a fearful disaster to himself and the nation.

Terrible storms have been raging for three days in the Department of Pyrenees-Orientales, flooding villages and causing wrecks and much loss of life.

BERLIN, December 16th.

The Emperor to-day gave audience to Count Rascon, the new Spanish Minister, who presented his credentials and Count de Benomar's letters of recall.

A letter to Osman Digna states that the steamer "expedition" to the equator, commanded by Osman Saleh, on arriving at Lado had Emin Pasha and a white traveler delivered to them in chains by Emin's officers and troops. Osman Saleh in his letter stated that he reached Lado on October 11th, and that the Khedive had sent a white traveler named Stanley with a letter telling Emin to go with Stanley and offering the remainder of the force the option of going to Cairo or remaining. They refused to enter the Turkish service, and gladly received Osman Saleh. He heard that another traveler had visited Emin but had gone, and he was searching for him.

TORONTO, December 16.

William O'Connor has challenged every Squire of Australia to row a three-mile race for the championship of the world and £1,000 a side, the race to take place on neutral waters.

LONDON, December 16th.

Advices from South Africa say that the King of Swaziland recently caused the massacre of his Premier and six chiefs and their people who were supposed to be concerned in a plot to dethrone him in favor of his brother.

BERLIN, December 17th.

Bismarck's country residence was burned yesterday. The library and valuable documents were saved.

NEW YORK, December 17th.

General Charles G. Dahlgren is dying at his residence. He is the victim of heart failure and a complication of disorders. General Dahlgren is 79 years of age. He was born in Philadelphia and is a brother of the late Admiral John A. Dahlgren, who died in Washington in 1871.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

CALCUTTA, December 18th.

A severe cyclone is raging on the Madras Coast; the steamer *Umballa* lost four boats, a foretop mast and some yards; kerosene oil was used with wonderful effect in breaking the force of the waves. One vessel is wrecked off Negapatam.

The Executive Council yesterday considered the expediency of expeditions against the Chittagong and Cachar border tribes.

The Viceroy, in Council, to-day resolved upon a punitive expedition to the Chittagong raiders, which is to be organized forthwith. Orders were at once given to the Military authorities to prepare the expedition.

December 18th.

It has been decided to send an expedition to the Chittagong frontier immediately. Twelve hundred men, with Sappers, for road making, a Coolie and Transport Corps of one thousand men from Dacca, and a contingent of elephants will join.

SUAKIM, December 19th.

General Grenfell has made a reconnaissance towards Handoub, but saw only few of the enemy. An attack by the garrison on the enemy's position is imminent; the Scottish Borders are armed with the new magazine rifle, which they are using with telling effect on the rebels.

PARIS, December 19th.

In the Senate to-day, M. Chancelier Lacour made a speech in which he implied the right to combine with the left and save France from Boulangerism, thereupon the members of the Senate rose in a body and cheered. M. Floquet promised to legislate in the matter should necessity arise.

BELGRADE, December 19th.

The elections for the Serbian Grand Skupstina have resulted in an overwhelming majority for the Radical or Antiquarian Party.

SUAKIM, December 20th.

General Grenfell, with a combined force of 4,000 men this morning attacked and stormed the rebel redoubt; our loss was slight, but the enemy lost over 1,000 men. The victory was complete in half an hour after the attack and cavalry charge which completed the route of the enemy who retreated to Heshen Tamal. General Grenfell now occupies the enemy's works.

LONDON, December 20th.

The official account of the fighting at Suakin states that at seven o'clock this morning, the forces under General Grenfell attacked the enemy's positions which the Black Brigade stormed most gallantly, the enemy offered a most desperate resistance, all their guns were captured. Volleys from the British infantry, assisted by the guns from the men-of-war, inflicted severe punishment on the enemy; none of the English officers were touched in the engagement.

SUAKIM, December 21st.

The Twentieth Hussars pursued the Dervishes close up to Handoub, the enemy's flight has been complete; Osman Digna's nephew, who was wounded in our attack on the redoubts, is now a prisoner in Suakin. Our troops are bivouacked in the captured trenches, and will probably march to Handoub. The official return of the enemy's loss is put at a number of four hundred men.

LONDON, December 21st.

Mr. Stanhope in reply to a question in the House of Commons said that the Charter of the Honorable Artillery Company had not been withdrawn, and that it would only be necessary to remodel it.

In a speech made by Lord Salisbury at Scarborough yesterday, his Lordship said that so long as the Khedive desired it, England would maintain the Red Sea ports, and was not prepared to abandon Suakin, the holding of which was necessary for the repression of the slave trade; moreover, England is bound by treaty to uphold the integrity of the Turkish Empire. Referring to the recent strictures of Mr. Gladstone on his speech at Edinburgh, his Lordship denied that the use of the term "Black man" was a contemptuous denunciation of the people of India. His Lordship declared that he said nothing in that speech about the people of India, but merely explained to his hearers a phrase in the Holborn election of 1866, as it was contested by a Liberal Card date belonging to a distant race, a fact

which was distinguished by his complexion; Lord Salisbury said he regarded such caricatures as incongruous and unwise, parliament being a machine too peculiar to be managed by any except the native British.

A letter from Mr. Stanley reached Stanley falls on the 28th August, when he was at Bohnalya on the Aruwihim, where he arrived on August 17th, having left Emin Pasha eighty-two days previously, perfectly well, and with plenty of food; Mr. Stanley had returned to bring up his rear guard, and had intended leaving ten days later presumably to rejoin Emin Pasha. All white men with him were in good health and wanted nothing.

CALCUTTA, December 21st.

The Marchioness Lansdowne assumed office of Lady President of the National Association for supplying medical aid to women in India; there will, however, be no change in the designation of the Fund, which will continue to be known as the Countess of Duffin's Fund.

At the general parade all troops in garrison, including volunteers of all arms, assembled to hear the proclamation announcing the assumption of the Viceroyalty by the Marquis of Lansdowne, read by each Colonel to their respective Corps.

A Royal salute of thirty-one guns, and three volleys by the Regiments were fired, after which there was a march past.

LONDON, December 23rd.

News has reached Zanzibar that Stanley with three hundred men arrived at Wadai on the 20th January in an exhausted condition. A fortnight later Emin Pasha received a message from the Mahdi stating that he intended to subdue the country, and demanding Emin to surrender Wadai province to him, and promising Emin his life and good treatment if he complied with the demand. Emin, however, refused to comply. The news arrived at Wadai in April that the Mahdi's troops were approaching; Stanley valiantly urged Emin to return with him.

Mr. Horace Darby, Gladstonian Liberal candidate, has been elected for Stockton-on-Tees replacing Mr. Dodds, who has retired. The Gladstonian majority at Stockton has now been reduced by seven hundred votes.

Doctor Tanner, member for Mid-Cork, having called Mr. Balfour a liar and a coward, has been suspended.

The Commons have agreed to allow the clerk of the house to attend the P. Russell Commission to produce the members' roll containing Mr. Parnell's signature.

December 24th.

Parliament was prorogued to-day. Her Majesty's speech says: "My relations with all foreign powers are friendly. I regret the rejection of the Fisheries treaty by the United States." Mention is then made of the conclusion of the Sugar Duties Convention. With respect to Egypt the speech says that "the attempt of the Sudanese to gain possession of Suakin has interrupted the restoration of Egypt to a condition of political and financial security. The dispersion of the rebels has been effected by a brilliant operation on the part of the Egyptian troops supported by a British contingent. In other respects the administrative and economic progress of Egypt has been satisfactory. The instruction on the continent of Zanzibar has been the cause of a large loss of life and property in the German settlements. This is due to the renewed vigour of the slave trade. I have joined Germany in a blockade of the coast where the insurrection exists." Her Majesty then says: "My Indian dominions have enjoyed general quiet and prosperity, and the disturbances in the Black Mountains and Sikkim have terminated without difficulty. The rebellion of Ishak Khan, which at one time threatened to become formidable, has been entirely subdued." Turning to the Cape, Her Majesty says: "The rising among the Zulu chiefs has not met with the sympathy from the people. The speech concludes by alluding to the New Local Government in England. No mention is made of Ireland.

A Royal Warrant has been issued, according to which the Commissariat Department has been re-named the Army Service Corps, and Officers in it will henceforth have ordinary Army rank. The Warrant also regulates promotion and retirement.

Mr. Gladstone has gone to Naples, where he arrived yesterday.

The Italian Chamber has voted the Military Credit.

Sir Lawrence Oliphant, formerly Chief Justice of Ceylon, is dead.

SUAKIM, December 24th.

The Cavalry have reconnoitred in the direction of Hasheen, but none of the enemy were to be seen.

BOMBAY, December 24th.

A Pioneer telegram from London says, that in the recent fight at Suakin, it was found that several revolvers had clogged during the action, and that many of the Hussars swords proved worthless.

The Lushai expedition will be under the command of Colonel Treager. The No. 2 Mountain Battery now stationed at Poona, have received orders to be in readiness for Chittagong.

CALCUTTA, December 24th.

The Amban with his confidential officers, had an interview of four hours with our Political Officers, the result of the interview is kept strictly secret. No Tibetan officers have arrived as yet.

There was a severe shock of earthquake last night in Calcutta, it lasted one minute and a half, there was considerable alarm, but no material damage to property has been done; the shock extended to Goalundo.

A report comes from Peshawar that a Russian force has moved from Kerki to the frontier, and that Ishak Khan is at Samarkhand.

THE FAMINE IN KIANGSU AND ANHUI.

The following letter has been received from a correspondent:—A very great number of places in Anhui and Kiangsu are suffering from famine this year. The greatest distress is in the three prefectures of Ying-chow, Shou-chow, and Li-chow in Anhui, and in the three prefectures of Chang-chow, Chinkiang and Yangchow in Kiangsu. In Anhui the distress is caused by floods and in Kiangsu by drought; I have myself visited these places and have been an eye-witness of the state of affairs. It is needless to describe the condition of rags and misery to be found there. People are either at their last gasp, lying about the roads at the point of death, or they remain with empty stomachs weeping bitterly in their houses. These distressing circumstances are most painful to hear and to see. Now that winter is approaching with snow and wind of unusual severity, the state of affairs will be worse than one can imagine. In the district of Ho-fai in Li-chow alone there are 300,000 families in extreme poverty. In Ying-chow and Shou-chow, there has been drought for two years and the whole population of the country is in a condition of famine.

Within the limits of the district of Tanti, Chinkiang, over an area of 200 li, not a grain of rice has been harvested. In the districts of Chang and Kan, which in Yangchow scarce a blade of grass is to be found, in the districts of Kiang-yin and Ching-chi in Chang-chow, there is nothing but weeds to be seen on the high lands, and among the hills at Ching chi more than 100,000 refugees from other places are groaning and crying out for food.

Alas! It is terrible to think that there is no means of saving the lives of these millions of

people. The Viceroy of the Two Kiang, Tséng, has done his utmost to get subscription lists; the Tao-tai and other officials under his jurisdiction have followed his example in commiserating the suffering of the people and have besides joined with a number of Chinese and foreign gentlemen in inviting benevolent people of all countries to open their purse strings and give their help. At such a time when all the sources of charity seemed to have been exhausted, I think that a great undertaking of this sort should give new hope to the afflicted ones.—Hupao.

THE TEA TRADE.

Under the above heading "Chassie" writes to our Shanghai morning contemporary on the 9th inst.:

More than a year having elapsed since the Chinese authorities asked and obtained advice from foreigners in China in connection with the decline of their tea trade, advice which they have not attempted to follow, it may be interesting to draw attention to the continued decline of the trade.

The export of blacktea from all China to Great Britain during the current season (1888-1889) is reduced to 92,450,000 lbs., against 108,900,000 lbs. last season (1887-1888) and 134,500,000 lbs. in season 1886-1887, a reduction of over 30 per cent. in two years.

It has been remarked by some that the Export to Russia shows a large increase, but this is hardly accurate. The export of black and brick tea to Russia and Russian Manchuria from the Northern tea ports for the current season (1888-1889) amounts to 55,600,000 lbs., against 52,700,000 lbs., last season (1887-1888) and 50,430,000 lbs., in season 1886-1887; the increase in the two years being only 5,170,000 lbs., while to Great Britain, as above mentioned, the decrease is 42,000,000 lbs.

The teas of this season were on the whole carefully prepared and of satisfactory quality; but while the Chinese are so kind as to continue to protect the Indian tea trade by burdening their own produce with heavy taxes (on common tea, over 50 per cent of the total value) they cannot be surprised at the decline of their trade, and at the corresponding success of their untaxed rivals.

My figures are taken from the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce Circular of the 4th inst.

SHANTUNG (CHEFOO) FAMINE RELIEF.

At a meeting held at H.B.M. Consulate at Chefoo on the 18th December, it was decided that a Committee—to be called the "Shantung Famine Relief Committee" should be formed and the following gentlemen were elected to serve:—Dr. Nevius, Mr. Eckford, Dr. Henderson, Dr. Douthwaite, Mr. Edgar, and Mr. Bristow (Chairman).

In pursuance of a resolution passed at this meeting a circular was issued asking for subscriptions in Chefoo, and some \$800 have been already collected. The greater part of this has been (together with the sums sent from Shanghai) forwarded to Mr. Laughlin, who with his wife has already proceeded to the suffering districts to commence the work of distribution.

The people are actually starving and in more than one district the wealthier farmers have been officially informed that they may not permit their cattle to eat the blades of wheat in their own fields, as these blades are the only available food for the poorer people.

Altogether the Committee has now at its disposal something over \$2,000, and must confine its relief to such an area as the fund in hand will allow it to deal with effectively.

NOTES FROM CHINESE PAPERS.

Mr. James Hart is said to have received instructions to make enquiries at Singapore and other places of the quantity of Opium imported and exported. This is said to be in connection with a future change in the tariff of duties collected on Opium by the Chinese Government.

The *Hu Pao* hears that the German Government, following the example of the Italian, have signed an agreement with China that hereafter all Germans of the Roman Catholic faith, whether missionaries or otherwise, shall apply to the German authorities for a passport, when intending to travel in the interior of China, and not as heretofore to the French.

In view of the sanguinary conflicts constantly occurring between the Salt Protective Service and Salt smugglers in China, and the great expense caused to the Government by the maintenance of the elaborate organization for the protection of the revenue derived from the provincial *gabelle* or Salt Monopoly, the *Hu Pao* suggests in a leading article the taxation of all Salt produced once for all at the places of production, at the rate of say 1 or 2 cash per catty, and afterwards the permission of unrestricted transport anywhere within the Empire.

The following are the statistics of China's trade with Russia in 1887:—

Imports from Russia exclusive of metals..... 4,353,502

European Imports by way of Manchuria..... 2,251,914

Imports of metals from Russia..... 2,974,085

Imports from Russia in 1887 show an increase of 50 per cent, on 1886, and from other European countries by Russian merchants an increase of 18 per cent. Metals show an increase of 28 per cent. The principal imports are cow and sheep hides, and the principal Chinese produce exported in return is tea, which figures to the amount of roubles 24,097,679 out of a total of all exports, roubles 20,456,577.

After the Taping rebellion, which turned the country bordering on the Yangtze, both North and South, into one vast battle-field, was quelled, great numbers of the rebels fled to foreign countries. One named Li Yu-tao, who had been a rebel General, fled to America, went into business in New York, and after several years of years' industry, had amassed a fortune of several million taels, holding large properties in New York, Boston, and Philadelphia. Li Yu-tao lately died, and his funeral was on a scale of great magnificence. Workmen were hard at work at the preparations for nine days. The coffin and bier were in the style of the Ming dynasty, and the body had a glittering crown hung with festoons of gold imitation coins on its head and ingots of gold in its hands. The paper imitation silver money and all the appurtenances of the funeral were in the style of a prince of the Ming dynasty, and at least a thousand mourners attended, besides such an immense crowd came to look on. It is strange to think of an outlaw and fugitive from justice, ending so well as Li Yu-tao.

The *Shin Pao* learns from Japanese newspapers that the Korean Government have given orders in November for the closing of the gold mines, and have thus deprived tens of thousands of miners of a means of living, and driven them to brigandage. After stating its opinion that

this is a *canard*, it observes that if the Korean Government have really taken such a retrograde step, they might have been led to do so by the following causes:—

(1) *Feng-shui* superstition on the part of the populace. The Korean people are densely superstitious, and even in China, although the planting of telegraph lines everywhere by the Government has tended to weaken this particular superstition, yet at Hoh-feng Chow in Ichang Fu, Hupeh, lately it was so strong that it prevented the Government opening the mines it intended.

(2) Want of funds. But in that case, says the *Shin Pao*, it should have issued a foreign loan, or applied to China, the suzerain and protector of Korea, to raise one for her.

(3) The intrigues of Russia or of Japan, both of which countries look with covetous eyes on Korea, and want some of the gold to remain in the country when they make their coup.

NINGPO.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Ningpo, 9th January, 1889.

We are having seasonable weather at last. Snow commenced to fall on Sunday afternoon about 4 p.m.; on Monday morning Ningpo and its environs were covered with a white mantle 4 inches thick; thermometer showing 25° and every sign of more snow.

It is assumed the steamship *Cass* has discovered that "the game is really not worth the candle," or we might say, her consumption of coals. On the 5th instant, she collided with a junk which was anchored abreast of Messrs. C. T. Wong & Co.'s premises. This small craft was leading for Wenchow with a cargo of sugar, vermicelli, and general merchandise under charter to Dong-fong, a cotton merchant here. It is said there are two claims brought forward for damages, \$2,000 and \$1,500 respectively. Let us hope, for the sake of the progressive tendency of her owner, the Governor of Formosa, that this elegant and powerful steamer will not come under the category of "white elephants."—Shanghai Mercury.

TIENTSIN.

22nd December, 1888.

The China Railway Company have invited tenders for 7,500 tons of Rails to be delivered not later than October, 1889. This is no doubt for the Tungchow line.

